**Washington, DC** – Congressman Rob Wittman (VA-1) issued the following statement after the Congress and White House came to an agreement to prevent a government shutdown:

"I support this effort to avoid a government shutdown and ensure the troops and their families do not have to worry if their paychecks will stop. Denying pay to our troops and their families because of political wrangling is unconscionable. These men and women risk their lives to defend our freedom here and overseas. Their families make sacrifices each day; we cannot deny them safety and security here at home, too.

"Federal spending is out of control and endangering the future prosperity of this nation. These are tough decisions to be made, and while the final package is not perfect, my goals remain: to cut spending, keep our government running efficiently, and pay our troops. We can do all these things – no excuses. Congress must do its job in the coming days to meet these goals."